



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Fact Sheet

## *Management Assistance*

The Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Program functions like a general practitioner in the medical field: its biologists monitor the health of fish and wildlife resources, diagnose ailments, prescribe remedies, refer specific problems to specialists and coordinate efforts to restore and maintain health. The program helps to avoid listings under the Endangered Species Act – or, in other words, to keep the patient out of the intensive care ward. The American people benefit from healthier ecosystems and the resulting increases in fishing and other recreational opportunities.

The strength of the Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Program is the people – and our partners – across the nation, working relationships with states, tribes, regional organizations and the private sector. The program cuts across political boundaries, fulfills tribal trust responsibilities to Native Americans and works with conservationists in other countries. The work generally is non-regulatory, non-controversial and almost always dependent to some extent on those outside the Service.

The Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Program, which operates under the fisheries umbrella, operates in all seven Regional offices and in 64 field offices in 33 states. The field offices – Fisheries Resource Offices, Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Offices, Coordination Offices and a Marine Mammals Management Office – include some 300 fishery biologists and other professionals.

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**  
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